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Contact: Joe Fadness – jffadness@michaelbeststrategies.com

Private Wells Near Lowes Creek County Park in Eau Claire County to be Proactively Sampled for PFAS

Recent news regarding PFAS and City of Eau Claire wells unrelated

[Eau Claire, Wis.] – WRR Environmental Services Co., Inc. (WRR) has installed groundwater monitoring wells on and off its property under the oversight of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Recent analysis of groundwater samples collected from monitoring wells located on the WRR and the Lowes Creek County Park properties indicate groundwater has been impacted by per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). As a result of this finding, WRR will be collecting water samples from private wells located near its facility.

Processing PFAS-containing materials is not part of WRR's service offerings. The PFAS detections in groundwater may be associated with a type of firefighting foam (AFFF) used to suppress fires that occurred at the WRR facility in 2007 and 2010. The additional sampling will assist in determining the extent of PFAS impacts. PFAS detected at WRR is not related to recent news regarding City of Eau Claire PFAS detected in wells that are located far beyond any PFAS impacts in this case.

WRR sent letters to those residences located downgradient from the monitoring wells previously sampled for PFAS seeking access to conduct private well sampling and analysis for PFAS. The expanded study area includes 17 properties. Initial results from the expanded study will determine if additional sampling is needed.

Background:

PFAS are a group of human-made chemicals used for decades in numerous products, including non-stick cookware, fast food wrappers, stain-resistant sprays and certain types of firefighting foam that at certain levels can cause health impacts. These legacy contaminants have made their way into the environment in a variety of ways. More [information about PFAS](#) including relevant research and resources is available from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Both state agencies, Eau Claire County, the Eau Claire County Health Department, and other stakeholders have been briefed on these circumstances along with WRR's response.